

## AMENDMENT

### IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 1, 8, 19, 25, 27, and 28 with the following rewritten versions:

1. (Amended) A device for the advancement of bars in automatic loaders provided with a loading system for a plurality of bars, with a mechanism for the individual release of said bars, and with a pusher adapted to connect with a collet which is adapted to receive the rear end of a released bar, comprising: a guiding mechanism, whereon supporting elements to support a bar released from said system, and a carriage provided with grip elements for said bar, are slideable, said carriage being actuated between an initial position, where said grip elements are actuated so as to grip the bar deposited on said supporting element, and a final position, where said bar is released by said grip elements, after inserting the bar in the collet, and is inserted in a spindle of an automatic lathe, said pusher being supported so as to translate; and means for locking and actuating said pusher between an offset position and a position where said pusher is aligned with the bar deposited on said supporting elements when said carriage is in the final position.

8. (Amended) A device for the advancement of bars in automatic loaders associated with a bar loading system, the advancement device having a mechanism for the individual release of the bars and a bar pusher for pushing a bar into a spindle of an automatic lathe, the bar pusher being adapted to connect with a collet which is adapted to receive the rear end of a released bar, the device further comprising:

a first guide;

a carriage operatively associated with said guide, said carriage having grip elements for a bar to be advanced, said carriage being slidably actuated between an initial position, where said grip elements are actuated so as to grip the bar deposited on said

guide and a final position, where said bar is released by said grip elements after inserting the bar in the collet and into the spindle of the automatic lathe;

said bar pusher being supported for translatory movement; and

said bar pusher being actuatable and lockable between an offset position and a position where said bar pusher is aligned with the bar deposited on said first guide when said carriage is in the final position.

19. (Amended) A device for the advancement of bars in automatic loaders associated with a bar loading system, the advancement device having a mechanism for the individual release of the bars and a bar pusher for pushing a bar into a spindle of an automatic lathe, the bar pusher being adapted to connect with a collet which is adapted to receive the rear end of a released bar, the advancement device comprising:

a carriage having grip elements for a bar to be advanced, said carriage being slidably actuated between an initial position, where said grip elements are actuated so as to grip the bar deposited thereon and a final position, where said bar is released by said grip elements after inserting the bar in the collet and into the spindle of the automatic lathe, said bar pusher being supported for translatory movement and said bar pusher being aligned with the deposited bar when said carriage is in the final position.

25. (Amended) The device of claim 19 including:

a guide operatively associated with said carriage, said guide supporting a bar when such bar is advanced into the collet.

27. (Amended) A device for the advancement of bars in automatic loaders associated with a bar loading system, the advancement device having a mechanism for the individual release of the bars and a bar pusher for pushing a bar into a spindle of an automatic lathe, the bar pusher being adapted to connect with a collet which is adapted to receive the rear end of a released bar, the advancement device comprising:

a carriage having grip elements for a bar to be advanced, said carriage being slidable so as to advance the bar end into the collet; and

said bar pusher being aligned with the deposited bar when said carriage is in the final position.

28. (Amended) The device of claim 27 including:

a guide operatively associated with said carriage, said guide supporting a bar when such bar is advanced into the collet.